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Piano: The Making of a Steinway Concert Grand James Barron

The Friends of the Library and Randolph-Macon Woman's College will sponsor an appearance by James Barron on Monday, September 11 at 7:30 PM in Smith Hall. Mr. Barron has written the book *Piano: the Making of a Steinway* Concert Grand. You can read more about the book on the publisher's website: www. henryholt.com/holt/piano.htm

Mr. Barron is a 25-year staff reporter for the NY Times and an amateur pianist; the book began as series of articles in the NY Times. The lecture is sponsored by the Friends of the Lynchburg Public Library's Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Lippard Memorial Fund.

The presentation will include a

PowerPoint slide show and musical selections on one of R-MWC's five Steinway pianos. The Macon Bookshop will have copies of the book available for

purchase, and Mr. Barron has agreed to sign them. Mr. Barron's publisher has donated

two copies of his book to the library. To reserve a copy, or for more information, call 455-6310.

:····· Lynchburg Reads 2007: All But My Life ·····

In partnership with the Lynchburg Holocaust Committee, the library has chosen the book All But My Life by Gerda Weissmann Klein for Lynchburg Reads 2007. Mrs. Klein will speak in Lynchburg next spring. The details as to date and venue

have not vet been finalized.



Mrs. Klein was born in Bielsko, Poland in 1924. During World War II she was sent to slave-labor camps in Marzdorf, Landshut and Gruenberg. Her late husband, Kurt, as a U.S. Army lieutenant, liberated Gerda on May 7, 1945. Her book is one of hope.

Additionally, an Academy Award and Emmy-winning documentary, One Survivor Remembers, was made of the book. The library will sponsor viewings and

discussions of the film. We are also looking at other activities to plan around the author visit, such as a food drive. The Southern Poverty Law Center has developed teaching tools for the book, which enhances its attractiveness to teachers.

As always, the library will have extra copies of the book and the documentary available for checkout.

LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY



This year the Lynchburg community celebrates the 40th anniversary of a remarkable event in the city's history. In 1966, as the accomplishments of the civil rights movement were beginning to bear legislative fruit with passage of the federal Civil Rights Act and Voting Act, a group of leading citizens quietly formed with the purpose of establishing a truly public library to replace the Jones Memorial Library, an institution that was segregated by the terms of its deed of trust. Although Jones Memorial willingly established a small lending library at Dunbar High School for black citizens, it was clear that creation of an integrated public library would require a push from the community.

Starting in 1964, a committee of community leaders, including Elliott and Rosel Schewel, Carl Hutcherson, Sr., and Dr. Carroll Lippard, began to explore ways to establish a public library, guided by James Dodd, librarian at Babcock & Wilcox, and Mary Breazeale, reference librarian at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Early on, the group heard from Virginia State Librarian Randolph Church, who added his support to the group's efforts.

Those efforts focused on a dem-

onstration library program approved by the Virginia General Assembly in 1951. If a locality could provide a building, shelves, furniture, and utilities, the Virginia State Library would provide a basic collection of 25,000 books and manage the library for up to two years. To help secure the needed facilities, the group formally organized as the Friends of the Lynchburg Public Library in September 1964. A successful fundraising drive yielded 5,500 names of citizens who had joined the Friends. The list was presented to city council in March 1965 and apparently one councilman indicated at the meeting that "there has never been such an overwhelming demonstration of strength. Give them what they

After considering seven possible locations, the new library was established in the Fleet Building downtown, behind the building that currently houses High Peak Sportswear. After gathering a collection of 35,000 books, the public library opened with a celebration on April 16, 1966. David Rowland became its first director in 1965. He was followed by Jane Black in 1968, and when she left in 1974, the library's current director, Lynn Dodge, was

hired. As the library grew, it required a bigger facility. In 1981 the city bought the old Sears building at the Plaza and the library opened at its current facility in 1984. In 1987, the Jones Memorial Library moved to the upper floor of the public library.

Looking back from a perspective of 40 years, the creation of a public library in Lynchburg was an incredible event. Without substantial rancor, the Friends of the Lynchburg Public Library moved effectively to establish a crucial community resource while ensuring its availability to all citizens. When the Friends demonstrated widespread community support, the city council backed the program and helped make it a reality. Today, the Friends of the Lynchburg Public Library, with the constant support of the library staff, continue to work for a strong public library that meets the needs of its constituents. As part of that effort, the Friends have embarked on an endowment drive in this 40th anniversary year as a way to ensure that the library remains vital and responsive for the next 40 years and beyond.

Harry Hammitt

Friends Board

Staff Anniversaries

Four staff are celebrating major anniversaries at the library in 2006.

Ellen Morgan, Youth Services – 25 years in July Cheryl Bray, Administration – 25 years in October Lorrie Johnson, Technical Services – 20 years in September Ken Morrison, Adult Services – 10 years in June



MLK, Jr. Center Exhibit **DVD** Available

If you were unable to attend the opening of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center exhibit, Celebrating 40 Years of Service 1966-2006, you can still view the program on DVD! Cable Channel 7 taped the 90-minute program. If you would like a copy, please contact the library office at 455-6330. DVDs are





A Book Appraisal Clinic Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

Tuesday, September 5, 7:30 p.m. Lynchburg Public Library



Jim Presgraves, of the Bookworm and Silverfish book store in Wytheville, will speak briefly about the old and rare book business and then appraise your books.

No reservations necessary COST: \$5.00 each; limit 5 books per session

For more information, call 434-455-6310



MAIN LIBRARY

2315 Memorial Ave. Lynchburg, VA 24501

Circulation, Renewals, Returns, Library Cards 455-6300

> Reference and Information 455-6310

Youth Services 455-6320

Administration and Technical Services 455-6330

Volunteer Program 455-6330

LIBRARY HOURS Main

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat 9:30 AM-5:30 PM

> Tues., Thurs. 9:30 AM-9:00 PM

Downtown Branch

Mon.- Fri. 9:30 AM-5:30 PM

DOWNTOWN BRANCH AND LAW LIBRARY

900 Church Street Lynchburg, VA 24504 455-3820

CLOSED

Monday, September 4 **Labor Day**

ww.lynchburgva.gov/publiclibrary